

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /080 W

----- 102842

R 300910Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6442

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 0537

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US XF

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER: MIDDLE EAST

REF: STATE 019613

DURING AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON FONMIN MACOVESCU JANUARY 29 HE
QUERIED MACOVESCU ABOUT ROMANIAN REACTION TO THE RESULT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE MIDDLE EAST. MACOVESCU RESPONDED
WITHOUT HESITATION THAT THE GOR WAS "NOT HAPPY". HE SAID HE
HAD READ CAREFULLY DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT ISSUED IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING VOTE IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL AS WELL AS AMBASSADOR
MOYNIHAN'S EXPLANATION OF OUR VETO WHICH WE HAD PROVIDED HIM.
HE HAD FOUND IT A THOUGHTFUL PRESENTATION, BUT HE WANTED TO BE
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DIRECT IN HIS COMMENTS OF HOW HE SAW PRESENT SITUATION. GOR

HAD HOPED A RESOLUTION COULD BE AGREED TO WHICH U.S. COULD ABIDE WITHOUT VETO, AND HAD LONG URGED ISRAEL TO PARTICIPATE WITHOUT AVAIL. ISRAEL'S EARLY REFUSAL WAS SIMPLY BAD TACTICS. ISRAEL HAD DEEPENED ITS POLITICAL ISOLATION, WHILE U.S. PEACE EFFORTS WOULD SUFFER, THE VETO HAVING MADE FUTURE U.S. EFFORTS WITH ARABS MORE DIFFICULT. MACOVESCU CONTENTED THAT FINAL DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS NOT ONLY NOT A BAD ONE BUT INDEED USEFUL -- A CLOSE PROFESSIONAL READING IN FACT WOULD SHOW IMPLICIT PALESTINIAN RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL AS A STATE, AS WELL AS PERPETUATING ESSENCE OF RESOLUTION 242, LESS REFERENCE TO "REFUGEES", WHICH WAS CLEARLY NO LONGER SUITABLE DESCRIPTION OF PALESTINIANS. ROMANIA HAD ATTEMPTED TO POSTPONE SC VOTE STILL FURTHER IN EFFORT TO AVOID VETO, BUT FOUND NO SIGN OF ISRAELI GIVE AT ALL. GOR THOUGHT SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITY HAD BEEN LOST, ALTHOUGH AGREED THAT TONE OF DEBATE WAS FAIRLY MODERATE AND THIS WAS A PLUS. GOR HAD HOPED TO SEE STILL MORE DIPLOMATIC SKILL AND PATIENCE DEPLOYED IN WORKING TOWARD GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. NOW, HOWEVER, ALL SIDES MUST RECOVER FROM SETBACK AND CONCENTRATE ANEW ON REVIVING MOMENTUM ON OTHER POLITICAL TRACKS.

BARNES

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